

Message Text

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65/56

ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 ERDA-05 AID-05 CEA-01

CIAE-00 CIEP-01 COME-00 DODE-00 FEAE-00 FPC-01 H-02

INR-07 INT-05 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 OMB-01 PM-04

USIA-06 SAM-01 OES-06 SP-02 SS-15 STR-04 TRSE-00

ACDA-07 PA-01 PRS-01 /113 W
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R 011211Z AUG 76

FM AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8404

INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE TEHRAN 7776

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y (TEXT-PARA TWO LINE TWO)

E.O.11652: N/A

TAGS: ENRG IR

SUBJ: IRAN TO SUPPLY NATURAL GAS TO CZECHOSLOVAKIA

1. ENGLISH LANGUAGE KAYHAN INTERNATIONAL OF JULY 31, 1976 REPORTED ON PROGRESS OF BILATERAL TALKS BETWEEN IRAN AND CZECHOSLOVAKIA ON THE SUPPLY TO THE LATTER OF IRANIAN NATURAL GAS. KAYHAN'S ARTICLE STATED THAT IRAN AND CZECHOSLOVAKIA ARE NEAR AGREEMENT ON THE SUPPLY ANNUALLY OF ABOUT 3.6 BILLION CUBIC METERS OF NATURAL GAS TO CZECHOSLOVAKIA. NATURAL GAS TO BE RECEIVED BY CZECHOSLOVAKIA WILL ACTUALLY BE SOVIET NATURAL GAS TO BE EXCHANGED FOR IRANIAN NATURAL GAS PIPED FROM IRAN'S SOUTHERN FIELDS TO THE SOVIET BORDER VIA A NEW 1,520 KILOMETER PIPELINE.

2. IT WILL BE RECALLED THAT IN FEBRUARY 1975, IRAN
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AGREED TO DELIVER 13.4 BILLION CUBIC METERS OF NATURAL GAS TO THE SOVIET UNION. AN APPROXIMATELY EQUIVALENT QUANTITY OF SOVIET NATURAL GAS WOULD THEN BE DELIVERED TO FRANCE, WEST GERMANY AND AUSTRIA. THE ADDITIONAL 3.6 CUBIC

METERS OF GAS DESTINED FOR CZECHOSLOVAKIA WILL THUS INCREASE
IRAN'S ANNUAL NATURAL GAS DELIVERIES TO THE U.S.S.R. TO APPROX-
IMATELY 17 BILLION CUBIC METERS. ACCORDING TO KAYHAN, DELIVERIES
OF NATURAL GAS TO CZECHOSLOVAKIA UNDER THIS AGREEMENT WILL BE AT
A PRICE NOT LESS THAN 90 CENTS PER THOUSAND CUBIC FEET.

3. NATIONAL IRANIAN GAS COMPANY (NIGC) MANAGING DIRECTOR
MOSSADEGHI HAS CONFIRMED TO EMBASSY ACCURACY OF KAYHAN ARTICLE.
WHEN ASKED WHY CZECHOSLOVAKIA WAS NOT INCLUDED ALONG WITH FRANCE,
WEST GERMANY AND AUSTRIA WHEN THE FEBRUARY 1976 AGREEMENT WAS
SIGNED, MOSSADEGHI MERELY SAID THAT THE CZECHOSLOVAKIAN AUTHOR-
ITIES WERE NOT THEN PREPARED TO BE INCLUDED IN THE DEAL. AL-
THOUGH KAYHAN REPORTED THAT AGREEMENT WAS EXPECTED WITHIN A DAY OR
TWO, MOSSADEGHI GAVE THE IMPRESSION THAT SEVERAL MORE DAYS OF
NEGOTIATIONS STILL REMAINED.
HELMS

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Message Attributes

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